

REMARKS

Claims 36-37 are pending in the present application. The Office Action and cited references have been considered. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 37 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement, particularly with respect to the phrase "an image for setting the direction frequency". Claim 37 has been amended to clarify what was meant, particularly, "a display for displaying a setting screen for letting the user set the user-set frequency on the basis of which the voice message is output." This language is fully supported by Fig. 3, and the accompanying description, e.g., page 29-32 of the present application. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. The claims have been amended to overcome this rejection. Withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 36-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yokoyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,864,771). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 36 recites a travel direction device for outputting a direction about a traveling route, comprising a device main body connected to a speaker. The device main body comprises a central processing unit for determining whether or not the speaker outputs a voice message for letting a user know about being in a school zone or entering the school zone, on the basis of a user-set frequency for outputting the voice message. Claim 37 recites that the device main body is connected to a display for displaying a setting screen for letting the user set the

user-set frequency on the basis of which the voice message is output. This is not taught, disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Yokoyama discloses system that stores areas in which there are many pedestrians, such as a schools zone, or a danger zone (a high-accident frequency zone). Col. 3, lines 31-37. Once the system is turned on, if the vehicles is determined to be in a safe driving area, operation of the vehicle is limited by, e.g., setting the gear position of start to the second position, or limiting an operational angle of the throttle valve. Col. 3, line 56- col. 4, line 5. A display and speaker are used to display information of whether the vehicle is entering or exiting a safe driving area, and the speaker provides this information as a voice guidance. Col. 4, lines 13-21. However, the information is provided to the driver each and every time a safe zone is entered or exited once the system is turned on; there is no disclosure that the notification is given on the basis of a user-set frequency, as claimed in claim 36. Thus, for this reason, Yokoyama does not contain all of the elements of claim 36, and thus, does not anticipate that claim.

Further, though Yokoyama does disclose a display, there is no disclosure that the display displays a setting screen for letting the user set the user-set frequency on the basis of which the voice message is output as recited in claim 37. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 36 and 37 are patentable over the prior art of record.

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and an early notice to this effect is most earnestly solicited. If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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